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Title: Need to take immediate steps to protect the life and property of farmers from the water released from the Farakka Barrage causing erosion of their agricultural land and dwelling units in Malda district of West Bengal.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): Sir, a regular and voluminous erosion of agricultural land into the River Ganges is taking place in down-stream Farraka Barrage in Malda District of West Bengal depriving the farmers who live alongside the river of their agricultural land and homeland as well.

Being homeless and income less totally the farmers are now dependent on alms only. Though their numbers ran into lakhs they are left only to their fate.

Therefore, there is a need to take all round steps to protect these hapless farmers from not only the natural calamities but also from the ill-effects of Farraka Barrage which is also responsible for their present condition.

I, therefore, demand that immediate steps be taken by the Central Government to protect the farmers of this region by fully rehabilitating them.

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